



Branching Out

December 18, 2009

The mission of Three Rivers Environmental Educators is to promote collaboration of resources and provide networking opportunities for environmental educators in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula areas of Virginia.

This will be the last of the newsletters for 2009. Hope everyone has a prosperous new year and happy holidays!

TREE meetings:

Tuesday, January 12, at Friends of the Rappahannock in Fredericksburg.

We will be nominating new officers. Please send nominations to charlene.talcott@dcv.virginia.gov

President: Preside at meetings, develop agenda, and represent organization at Virginia Environmental Education conference and other events.

Vice-President: Presides at meetings in president's absence, helps develop programs for meetings.

Secretary: Take notes at meetings, compile minutes, and forward e-mail announcements to members

Publicity chair: New office. Will publicize meetings and organization to media and potential members.

**Spring meeting: Deltaville Fisherman's Museum and Holly Point Park in April.
Details coming soon!**

Other Events:

Celebrate National Bird Day

January 5, 2010, marks the 8th annual National Bird Day celebration.

Today nearly 12 percent of the world's 9,800 bird species may face extinction within the next century, and millions of captive birds lead miserable lives languishing in cages. Participate by hosting a bird-related event. A full suite of information and activities can be found on the Web site.

Free National Bird Day posters are available to educators! Contact Monica Engebretson for more information at monica@bornfreeusa.org or (916) 447-3085 x 210

<http://www.NationalBirdDay.com>

Learning Ocean Science through Ocean Exploration

NOAA's Ocean Exploration Program and partners will offer introductory Learning Ocean Science through Ocean Exploration professional development workshops for science teachers (unless otherwise noted). Participants will receive the curriculum with CD-ROM's, certificates of participation, and more. Contact the noted educator for registration and more information.

January 30, 2010 with Nauticus, The National Maritime Center. The deadline for registration is January 15, 2010. <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/edu/development/development.html>

NOAA's Teacher at Sea Program: A Free Teacher Research Experience

Application Deadline: December 31, 2009

Are you an educator interested in gaining first-hand research experience on an ocean research ship? Explore the opportunities offered by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Teacher at Sea program. This program gives teachers a clearer insight into our ocean planet, a greater understanding of maritime work and studies, and environmental literacy by fostering an interdisciplinary research experience. <http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov>

Free Tools and other Cool Stuff

Earth Expeditions Graduate Field Courses & Global Field Master's Program ~ Tuition Paid

Apply by: January 28, 2010

Miami University's Project Dragonfly, honored in 2008 with the NAAEE award for "Outstanding Service to Environmental Education" at the global level, is accepting applications for its 2010 Earth Expeditions graduate field courses and the Global Field Master's Program (GFP). The courses and the GFP combine summer field courses in Africa, Asia, and the Americas with Web learning communities and bring together graduate students, scientists, educators, and community leaders at critical conservation field sites worldwide for firsthand experience with inquiry-driven education, environmental stewardship, and global understanding.

Each accepted applicant is awarded a tuition scholarship covering 2010 field course tuition, equivalent to \$3,100 (Ohio residents) and \$7,100 (non-Ohio residents). This tuition reduction applies to all applicants, regardless of residency or nationality. Award recipients are responsible for travel and field costs.

Earth Expeditions courses and the GFP Master's may be completed part-time from anywhere in the US or abroad, and are open to educators and other professionals from all settings and disciplines.

<http://www.EarthExpeditions.org>

Clean Water Act Course - Online

The River Network offers an online Clean Water Act course. This course provides lessons on topics that are integral to understanding the Clean Water Act. Participants can select a topic or take the entire ten-lesson course. <http://www.rivernetwork.org/introduction-cwa-course>

National Recreation Trails Photo Contest

American Trails sponsors an annual contest for photographs of National Recreation Trails across the country. The categories are trail use, management, and features, along with artistic merit. They are looking for photos of trail users as well as special facilities, art on the trails, management issues, construction, and volunteers. The entry deadline is December 15, 2009.

<http://americantrails.org/nationalrecreationtrails/photocon.html>

Acid Test

Acid Test: the Global Challenge of Ocean Acidification, a film produced by the National Resources Defense Council, was made to raise awareness about the problem of ocean acidification, which poses a fundamental challenge to life in the seas and the health of the entire planet. The video and additional outtakes can be viewed online or downloaded from the website, or ordered on DVD. <http://www.nrdc.org/oceans/acidification/aboutthefilm.asp>

AMSER Science Reader Monthly

The AMSER (Applied Math and Science Education Repository) Science Reader Monthly aims to provide educators with information about a particular topic related to applied math and science by combining freely available articles from popular journals with curriculum, learning objects, and web sites from the AMSER portal. The AMSER Science Reader Monthly is free to use in the classroom and educators are encouraged to contact AMSER with suggestions for upcoming issues. <http://www.amser.org/AMSER--ScienceReader.php>

Biodiversity Indicators Partnership

The 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership is a global initiative funded by the Global Environmental Facility, which brings together international organizations to develop biodiversity indicators and assess biodiversity loss. The website offers a portal to provide comprehensive information on global biodiversity indicators and trends. <http://www.twentyten.net/>

Coastal Inundation Toolkit

The Coastal Inundation Toolkit is available from the Digital Coast website. The toolkit contains tools and information communities need to address coastal inundation issues. An inundation mapping guidebook is the main component of the toolkit, with instructions that show communities how to discover and map the areas likely to flood and the features, such as facilities and populations, which are most at risk. The site also provides information about coastal inundation, how to best communicate risk information, and more. <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/inundation/>

Tools with a Cost:

Climate Discovery Courses for Educators - Online

The National Center for Atmospheric Research offers a series of online courses for middle and high school science teachers, combining geoscience content, current climate research, easy to implement hands-on activities, and group discussion. The next courses run concurrently from January 22-March 14, 2010; early-bird registration ends January 1, 2010. <http://ecourses.ncar.ucar.edu/>

Earn a Master of Environmental Management at Duke University from your Desktop

Create an environmental vision for tomorrow at the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke, while maintaining a commitment to your employer and family! The Duke Environmental Leadership Program offers an innovative, two-year Master of Environmental Management degree for environmental professionals. The DEL-MEM is an online and on-campus program providing a perspective of interdisciplinary and global themes, strategic approaches to environmental management, and effective leadership and communication skills. Information Sessions available now at Duke or via virtual sessions. <http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/del/del-mem/>

M.S. in Ecological Teaching and Learning at Lesley University

This 32-credit master's degree program brings educators from schools, museums, nature centers, and alternative teaching settings together in learning communities to develop and deepen their capacity to integrate ecological concepts into the curriculum. The program has two cohorts, one in the Pacific Northwest and one in the Northeast. The program includes two field-study summers and three distance learning school-year semesters.

http://www.lesley.edu/gsass/audubon/etl_index.html

Grants, Volunteers, and Funding:

FY2010 EPA Environmental Education Grant Solicitation

Deadline: Postmark by December 15, 2009

EPA seeks proposals to support environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop knowledgeable and responsible students, teachers, and citizens. EPA issues EE grants from Headquarters as well as its Regional offices. The same educational priorities are used for both -- the EPA funding amount requested determines whether the grant is awarded from a Region or from Headquarters. Regional offices fund projects from \$5,000 to \$50,000. EPA Headquarters funds projects from \$50,001 to \$200,000. Following instructions is an important part of the application process. Read the entire notice but pay particular attention to Section 2. Complete the Application and Budget Form. <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>

AmeriCorps State and National Grants

AmeriCorps State and National Grants offer funds for Education, Clean Energy/Environment, and more. The AmeriCorps State, National, and Indian Tribes Planning Grants support the development of AmeriCorps programs so applicants are better prepared to compete for an AmeriCorps program grant in the following grant cycle. The deadline for application for both grants is January 26, 2010.

http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=74

http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=73

Big Green Grants

The Big Green Help Green Team Toolkit from Nickelodeon offers environmental resources and ideas for Earth Day, summer camp, and back-to-school activities for your school, club, troop, or community group, bundled together as an 8-part lesson plan. Groups can register your Big Green Help Earth Day event and become eligible to apply for a Green Grant. The deadline for registration is December 31, 2009. <http://www.bghevent.com/grant/index.htm>

Jobs

Education Outreach Associate

Description: Earth Day Network is offering an entry-level opportunity handling a range of organizational duties that advance the mission of Earth Day Network's Education Department, with particular emphasis on research and administrative support for supporting initiatives and programs related to Earth Day 2010. Specifically, we seek to distribute a K-12 Earth Day curriculum unit to schools nationwide. This activity will also include the required follow-up, volunteer coordination, and support of related Earth Day activities at participating schools nationwide. The Education Outreach Associate liaises with the Director of Education, the Education Coordinator, and the International Outreach Coordinator at EDN to support members of EDN's Educators' Network and EDN's 40th Anniversary initiatives planned for April 2010. The goal is to build widespread environmental education resources and increase participation and action related to Earth Day within K-12 schools across the U.S. (See below for contact information)

Curricula Writer

Description: Earth Day Network seeks a dynamic and energetic individual to handle a range of environmental education activities that advance the mission of Earth Day Network's Education Department, with particular emphasis on the development of environmental education curricula related to Earth Day 2010. The Curricula Writer liaises with the Director of Education, the Education Coordinator, and other staff to support members of EDN's Educators' Network and EDN's school-based greening activities. The goal is to build widespread environmental and school greening education resources within K-12 schools across the U.S. and abroad in conjunction with our 40th Anniversary in April. Currently, the focus is on creating educational materials and lessons for Earth Day 2010, implementing school greening projects at K-12 schools across the U.S., outreaching to establish and maintain relationships with individuals and organizations around the world, and supporting educators and youth at selected schools worldwide that have interest in environmental education.

Job Type: Full Time temporary

Salary Detail: Commensurate with experience

Deadline: 1-11-2010

Organization: [Earth Day Network](#)

Location: Washington, DC

Contact Person: Sean Miller

Phone: 202.518.0044 x 31

E-Mail: miller@earthday.net

Mailing Address: Earth Day Network

Attn: Director of Education

1616 P Street, NW, Suite 340

Washington, DC 20036

Associate - Southern Forests for the Future

Description:

The World Resources Institute (WRI) seeks a results-oriented, self-motivated individual with excellent analytical, writing, communication, and people-engagement skills for a full-time position to help implement "Southern Forests for the Future." This project seeks to:

- Increase public awareness about the threats facing southern U.S. forests and the ecosystem services these forests provide;
- Identify and develop economic incentive programs to promote stewardship of southern forests and analyze their economic and environmental benefits;
- Work with public agencies, land trust organizations, private landowners, and other entities to adopt and adequately finance these programs and;
- Help public and private entities pilot test these programs and research ways to maximize the uptake of the most promising ones by industrial and non-industrial forestland owners.

Our short term goal is to secure protection of over 4 million acres of private forestland otherwise jeopardized by land use conversion or unsustainable forest management.

Job Type: Professional

Salary Detail: Salary Commensurate with Experience

Deadline: 1-15-2010

Organization: [World Resources Institute](#)

Location: Washington DC

Contact Person: Logan Yonavjak

Phone: 1 (202) 729-7795

E-Mail: lyonavjak@wri.org

Got news, job postings, events, or other information to share? Want to brag about awards? Hear about something that would be of interest to members? Send them to charlene.talcott@dcr.virginia.gov

Please forward this to anyone that might be interested. Want to be included on the TREE mailings? Contact faye.andrashko@va.nacdnet.net